Prevention of exploitation of female domestic helps working in metro cities

†3960. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken or to be taken by the Central Government to take necessary steps to prevent the exploitation of female domestic helps working in metropolitan cities through unrecognized employment agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Police and Public Order are State subjects, as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the National Commission for Women has taken cognizance of the issue of exploitation of domestic maids by their employers and the placement agencies and proposes to constitute a committee to examine the issues relating to domestic workers. The bill to protect women against sexual harassment at workplace, which is on the anvil, also includes domestic helps.

Social audit of labour intensive industries

3961. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to dispel the wrong notion among the developed countries that India engages a large number of child labour in export-oriented industries like carpet, handicrafts, apparel, gems & jewellery and sports goods. Government has proposed to conduct social audit of labour intensive industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this social audit system will also be extended later to glass bangle industry (Firozabad) and match/fireworks industry centred around Sivakasi in the South?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) While there is no specific proposal for social audit in labour intensive export oriented industries, with a view to eliminating child labour from such industries, necessary steps are taken under the existing laws to prevent child labour in prohibited occupations and processes.

Unemployed persons registered with Employment Exchanges

3962. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people currently unemployed as per the records of Employment Exchanges and otherwise;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.